

NEWPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY

Board of Trustees

Meeting Minutes

April 19, 2012

1. Call to order: President Mary Ambrogi called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. in the Rotary Board Room of the Newport Public Library.

Attendance: Mary Ambrogi, Lynn Ceglie, Carol Cummins, Doriene Farzan, Chuck Flippo, Girard Galvin, David Gordon, Robin Skuncik Jones, Susan McCoy, Justin McLaughlin, David Reed and library director Regina Slezak.

Pat LaRose, Assistant Director/Head of Adult Services, was also in attendance.

Excused: Gail Alofsin, Jennifer Booth, Paul Gaines, Eileen Hadfield, William Harvey

Absent: Lesley Thurston

2. Amendment to the agenda:

There was one change to the agenda. Under the heading New Business, the Big Read was moved to the beginning of the agenda.

3. Minutes of the March 15, 2012 meeting:

Susan McCoy asked for changes or additions to the minutes. Hearing none, she asked for a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Doriennne Farzan moved to accept the minutes of the March 15, 2012 meeting. Girard Galvin seconded the motion. Mary Ambrogi, Lynn Ceglie, Carol Cummins, Doriennne Farzan, Chuck Flippo, Girard Galvin, David Gordon, Robin Skuncik Jones, Susan McCoy, Justin McLaughlin and David Reed voted for the motion and there were no votes against. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

4. Finance Committee report:

Robin Skuncik Jones reported that payroll is below budget due to vacancies. Cash amounts are up due to the increase in restricted and designated funds. Investments are up 1% in March, 3.4% year to date.

Regina Slezak reported that the library received \$464 in fines through e-commerce, a program that allows patrons to pay their fines online with a credit card. The fines are sent to Ocean State Libraries and they send out checks quarterly.

5. Bylaws Committee report:

Copies of the bylaws were emailed/mailed to Board members for their review.

Susan McCoy made a motion to approve the revised Bylaws of the Newport Public Library. Girard Galvin seconded the motion. Discussion followed.

Article V, Section 5, Personnel Committee should state that members of the Executive Committee consist of the Personnel Committee.

Carol Cummins made a motion to approve the revised Bylaws of the Newport Public Library as amended. Susan McCoy seconded the motion. Mary Ambrogi, Lynn Ceglie, Carol Cummins, Doriene Farzan, Chuck Flippo, Girard Galvin, David Gordon, Robin Skuncik Jones, Susan McCoy, Justin McLaughlin and David Reed voted for the motion and there were no votes against. The vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

6. Building and Grounds Committee report:

David Reed reported that work on the HVAC system has begun. A crane lifted the new parts to the roof. Pictures of the project were passed around as well of pieces of the disintegrated coils. The remainder of the work will be completed before the summer.

7. Long Range Plan Committee report:

Carol Cummins stated that the Long Range Planning Committee has completed the Long Range Plan. Draft copies of the plan were distributed. Regina Slezak read the plan highlights.

A vote to approve the plan will be made at the May meeting.

8. Financial Development Committee report:

Susan McCoy reported that the annual appeal received a \$5,000 donation from Gloria Nagy and Saul Wurman. The event has earned over \$14,000 so far.

The committee has secured a local caterer and a sound system vendor for the event.

9. Friends of the Library:

At last year's Friends of the Library annual meeting, the library was given \$10,000 from the Friends for discretionary purposes. Chuck Flippo reported that the money will be used to fund an author's account to pay author's fees and expenses when they do programs for the library.

10. Director's Report:

In addition to her written report, Regina Slezak reported that the Newport Daily News printed an article on new library technology to coincide with National Library Week. The library celebrated National Library Week with increased programming.

11. Old business:

a. Comments on the Public Library Association Virtual Conference:

After the March Board meeting, members of the Board were invited to attend a webinar on transforming public libraries from institutions of the industrial age to change agents for the networked society. The Board was impressed with the Danish library especially the facility itself.

12. New business:

a. The Big Read:

Pat LaRose, Head of Adult Services, spoke about this year's Big Read, a program to encourage communities to read the same book to promote discussion, sponsored by the library and the Newport Preservation Society and funded with a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. This year's selections are Thornton Wilder's Our Town and The Bridge of San Luis Rey. In addition, the library chose to add Theophilus North, due to its local connection. Many programs are planned in May and June including a celebrity read, film showings, walking tours and book discussions. A calendar listing all the programs was distributed.

13. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40. The next meeting is scheduled on May 17, 2012.